



Australian Bureau of Statistics

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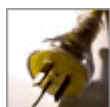
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Message from the NSW Regional Director – IAN EWING

MESSAGE FROM THE NSW REGIONAL DIRECTOR – IAN EWING



Welcome to the June edition of Statistics News NSW.

The highlight of this edition of Statistics News NSW is coverage of the recently released **NSW in Focus 2007**, providing a wide range of statistics from both ABS and non-ABS sources covering: population, family and community, health, education and training, work, household economic resources, housing, crime and justice, transport, economic activity and the environment. A new feature of this year's volume is the inclusion of comparisons with other states and other countries. NSW in Focus 2007 is designed to provide a convenient up-to-date handbook of statistics about our State, and is widely used by people in government, business and the community. We welcome your thoughts on the usefulness of the content and on what we could do to improve it! Like all ABS publications, NSW in Focus is available free on the ABS web site.

Another prominent highlight after years of planning, collecting, and processing millions of forms, was the first release on 27 June of statistics from the 2006 Census of Population and Housing. Recently we held a number of seminars on the 2006 Census and NSW in Focus 2007, at the NSW ABS Office, with over 400 people attending. We are currently organising regional Census Information sessions including Wollongong, Newcastle, Wagga, Dubbo, Lismore. Visit **2006 Census of Population and Housing** or contact the NSW Census Liaison Officer Larissa Wharton on 02 9268 4376.

Other significant releases with statistics on NSW are:

- **Domestic Water and Energy Use, NSW** (cat. no. 4621.1)
- New **Labour Force Historical Time Series spreadsheets** (cat. no. 6204.0.55.001), presenting a range of labour force status data
- **Principal Agricultural Commodities, Australia, Preliminary** (cat. no. 7111.0), featuring NSW as the state with the highest number of sheep and lambs (31.3 million) accounting for 34% of all sheep and lambs in Australia. NSW was Australia's second largest wheat producer (7.8 million tonnes) accounting for 31% of total Australian wheat production

- New **Counts of Australian Businesses, Including Entries and Exits** (cat. no. 8165.0), measuring levels and rates of business entries to and exits from the Australian economy, and providing data on business survival.

The recently released **Measures of Australia's Progress: Summary Indicators** (cat. no. 1383.0.55.001) is also an important national publication, providing a selection of statistical evidence, allowing Australians to make an assessment of whether life in Australia is getting better.

NSW Statistics News provides an overview of significant statistical releases in NSW. We offer a range of services to better inform your decision making. Contact us here at ABS NSW.

NSW in Focus 2007



NEW SOUTH WALES IN FOCUS 2007

New South Wales in Focus (cat. no. 1338.1), released on 17 May, provides a contemporary record of activity within the state, presenting an array of useful and interesting statistics from both ABS and non-ABS sources. The materials presented in this publication are organised into twelve chapters representing areas of social or economic importance: population, family and community, health, education and training, work, economic resources, housing, crime and justice, transport, economic activity, and the environment. The final chapter presents national and international indicators. At the beginning of each chapter a summary table presents a time series of key indicators, followed by more detailed statistics relating to issues identified within each topic.

The 2007 edition includes a chapter on work which provides an expanded analysis of labour force status, underutilisation, job mobility, skilled employment, and information about people not in the labour force. In addition, selected national and international indicators, covering a range of topics, have been included for comparative purposes.

NSW in Focus is an easy to use reference for government agencies, universities, other education facilities, research organisations, businesses and the general community. It is produced annually and is available free of charge from the ABS web site.

For further information contact Allan McLean on (02) 9268 4795, email client.services@abs.gov.au.





2006 Census - First Release



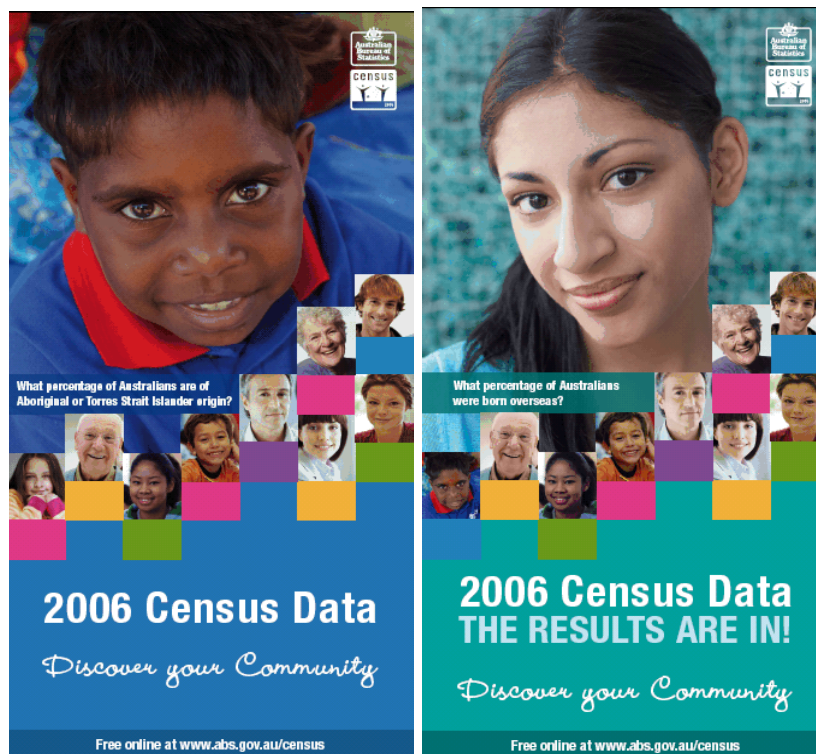
2006 CENSUS - FIRST RELEASE

The first results from the 2006 Census of Population and Housing were released on Wednesday 27 June, 2007. Selected data from the 2006 Census will be available in two releases, available free on the ABS web site. Those variables which are simpler to process are part of the first release and include data on age, sex, place of birth, dwelling location and type, household composition, type of internet connection, family composition and family income.

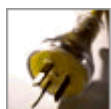
Those variables which are more complex to process, such as labour force status, occupation, and method of travel to work, are processed later so as not to hold up the release of the bulk of the Census data. These variables are expected to be released in October/November 2007.

A full list of first and second release variables is available in the **Census Dictionary, 2006** (cat. no. 2901.0)

For further information contact the National Information and Referrals Service on 1300 135 070, email client.services@abs.gov.au.



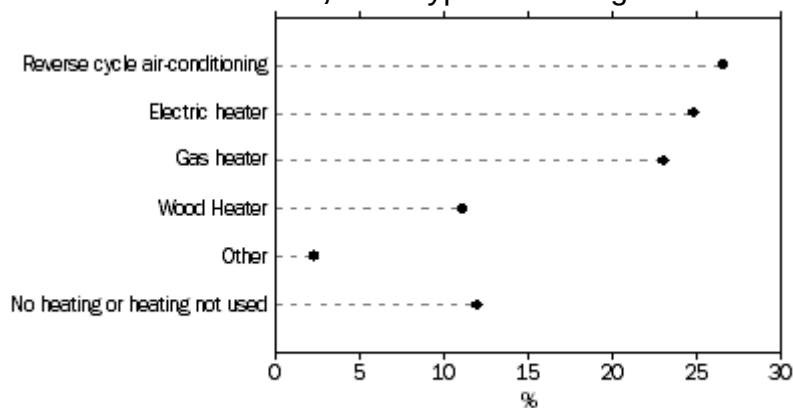
Energy Use in NSW Homes



ENERGY USE IN NSW HOMES

Findings from the New South Wales State Supplementary Survey, **Domestic Water and Energy Use, New South Wales, Oct 2006** (cat. no. 4621.1) were released on 10 May 2007. The publication presents information on selected water and energy consuming appliances including types of heating and cooling used in the household, energy source for hot water systems, domestic indoor water use, clothes drying habits and swimming pool ownership and maintenance.

HOUSEHOLDS, Main type of heating used



Source: Domestic Water and Energy Use, New South Wales, Oct 2006 (cat. no. 4621.1)

Selected findings include:

- An estimated 27% of households used reverse cycle air conditioning as the main type of heating, 25% used other types of electric heating and 23% used gas heating.

- Wood heating was used by 11% of households as the main type of heating, with the greater proportion of those being outside Sydney in the Balance of NSW.
- Over 30% of households used a fan as their main type of home cooling, 21% used split system air-conditioning, 17% used portable or set in the wall air-conditioners, and 12% of households used ducted air-conditioning.
- The most common energy type for hot water systems in households was off-peak electricity (44% of households), 26% used mains gas and only 3% used solar energy.
- The majority (57%) of households have only one shower facility, and an estimated 9% of households had 3 or more showers.
- Approximately 79% of households used top loading washing machines, 2% used twin tub machines, and water efficient front loaders were used by 14% of households.
- Cold water is used for 71% of washing machine loads done by NSW households. Warm water accounts for 17% of washing loads, while about 2% of washing loads are done in hot water.
- An estimated 29% of households with an electric clothes dryer used it once per week, 37% used it less than once per month and 14% never used it.
- 78% of households used a private outdoor clothes drying line and 64% had access to a clothes airer.
- 14% of households had a swimming pool and/or a spa.

Data is disaggregated by Sydney and Balance of NSW, number of bedrooms in the household and type of dwelling. Similar information is available for South Australia and Western Australia in the publications **Domestic Use of Water and Energy, South Australia, Oct 2004** (cat. no. 4618.4) and **Domestic Use of Water and Energy, Western Australia, Oct 2006** (cat. no. 4652.5).

For further information contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070, email client.services@abs.gov.au.

NSW Demography Update



NSW DEMOGRAPHY UPDATE

Latest snapshot of NSW

The NSW population at 31 December 2006 was 6,854,800 people, an increase of 64,000 people (0.9%) on the previous 12 months. During 2006 there were 87,300 births and 46,100 deaths in NSW. NSW also recorded a net overseas migration gain of 46,800 people and a net interstate migration loss of 25,300 people in 2006. For quarterly information on these and other key demographic indicators see **Australian Demographic Statistics, December 2006** (cat. no. 3101.0)

Migration

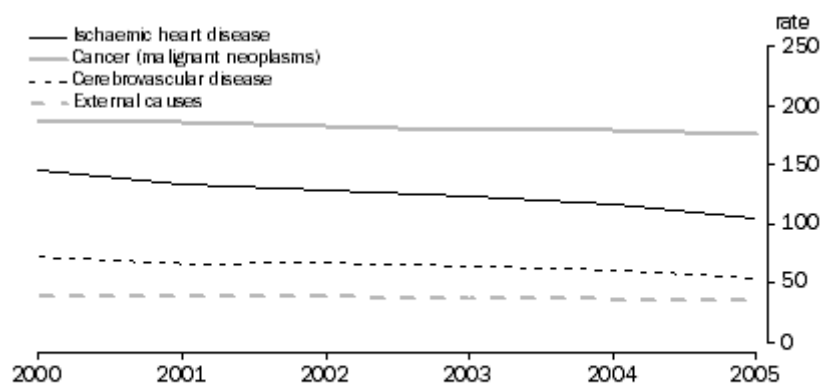
NSW recorded a net overseas migration gain of 42,200 people for the 2005–06 financial year. During the same period, NSW recorded a net interstate migration loss of 24,000 people comprising 81,100 arrivals to NSW and 105,100 departures. Arrivals were primarily from Queensland (33,200) and Victoria (21,300). Similarly, departures were mainly to Queensland (51,000) and Victoria (23,300).

For detailed annual information on all aspects on migration see **Migration, Australia, 2005–06** (cat. no. 3412.0). For the latest monthly information on overseas migration see **Overseas Arrivals and Departures, Australia, Apr 2007** (cat. no. 3401.0).

NSW in Focus

NSW in Focus, 2007 (cat. no. 1338.1) includes a range of demographic and health statistics at the state and regional level. Latest mortality figures show that deaths from ischaemic heart disease declined from 124.3 deaths per 100,000 persons in 2000 to 104.4 in 2005. During the same period, deaths from cancer (malignant neoplasms) increased from 163.4 per 100,00 persons to 176.6. National data on causes of death is available annually in the publication **Causes of Death, Australia, 2005** (cat. no. 3303.0).

STANDARDISED DEATH RATES(a), NSW, 2000–2005



(a) Deaths per 100,000 standard population.
Source: *NSW in Focus, 2007* (cat. no. 1338.1)

Improved methods for estimating net overseas migration

Over recent years there has been a large increase in the volumes of international travellers crossing Australia's borders. There has also been increased frequency of travel, and significant volatility in the patterns of international travel. In response, the ABS has developed improved methods for estimating net overseas migration and determining how many international travellers are to be accounted for in estimating the Australian population. The **Information Paper: Statistical Implications of Improved Methods for Estimating Net Overseas Migration, Australia 2007** (cat. no. 3107.0.55.005) provides an overview of these improved methods and analysis of the statistical impacts on estimates of net overseas migration for the period from December quarter 2003 to June quarter 2006.

Estimates calculated using the improved methods will be applied in compiling estimates of the resident population of Australia, the states and territories from September quarter 2006. Estimates for September and December quarters 2006 were released on 5 June 2007 in **Australian Demographic Statistics, December Quarter 2006** (cat. no. 3101.0).

For further information contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070, email client.services@abs.gov.au.

NSW Statistical Training



NSW STATISTICAL TRAINING

Developing your statistical skills for better decision making

The ABS provides a range of statistical training courses for developing the skills needed to undertake high quality statistical collections and statistical analysis. The training courses develop practical skills through formal presentations, interactive discussion and participant involvement in individual and group exercises.

Not sure whether the training is right for you?

The ABS provides training to assist in the development of the skills necessary for producing or identifying high quality statistics and using statistics to inform decision making. Each course provides an introduction to a wide range of issues confronting users and producers of statistics. The courses are suited to people who have limited practical or theoretical experiences, and want to develop a working knowledge of using statistics and data.

The courses are designed to increase your confidence in using statistical data, and to gain a better understanding of the issues involved in choosing and using statistics. All courses provide you with the opportunity to discuss issues in a supportive learning environment, and provide well paced learning through practical, informative and relevant training modules.

What courses are offered?

Some of our more popular courses are:

- Making Quality Informed Decisions
- Analysing Survey Data Made Simple, and
- Turning Data into Information

The full suite of courses are available for viewing the **ABS web site**. For further information regarding statistical training contact the NSW Training Coordinator on (02) 9268 4327, email client.services@abs.gov.au, or visit the **ABS web site**.



Agricultural Census 2006



AGRICULTURAL CENSUS 2006

In 2006, the Australian Bureau of Statistics conducted a Census of 185,000 agricultural businesses, the largest ABS collection apart from the 5 yearly Population Census. The ABS

releases several publications using data collected in the Agricultural Census.

Principal Agricultural Commodities, Australia, Preliminary (cat. no. 7111.0), was released on 17 May. It includes state and territory production and area figures for main crops, as well as livestock numbers for cattle, sheep, lambs and pigs. Horticulture (vegetables, fruit and nuts) estimates at the Australian and state levels will be released in late June as a supplementary dataset to this publication.

Findings in the *Principal Agricultural Commodities, Australia, Preliminary* indicate that in 2005–06, New South Wales:

- had the highest number of sheep and lambs of any state or territory (31.3 million), accounting for 34% of all sheep and lambs in Australia, and
- was Australia's second largest wheat producer (7.8 million tonnes) accounting for 31% of the total Australian wheat production.

Future releases using Agricultural Census data:

- *Selected Agricultural Commodities, Australia, Preliminary* (cat. no. 7112.0) will be released towards the end of July, and will contain estimates of all commodities at the state level, including a greater range of crop, horticulture and livestock statistics.
- *Water Use on Australian Farms* (cat. no. 4618.0) will be released in August, and will contain estimates of agricultural irrigation water use by crop, other agricultural water use and water sources at the Australian and state levels. Regional level water data will be released following publication of *Agricultural Commodities, Australia*.
- *Agricultural Commodities, Australia* (cat. no. 7121.0) will be released in late 2007, and will include final data for all commodities, as well as statistics on the number of agricultural businesses (size, industry and the estimated value of agricultural operations).
- As a supplement to *Agricultural Commodities, Australia*, a number of datasets containing small area data (Statistical Division and Statistical Local Area) will be released on the ABS website.

For further information contact Daniel Lester on (03) 6222 5943 or the National Referral Service on 1300 135 070, email client.services@abs.gov.au.

New Labour Market Time Series



NEW LABOUR MARKET TIME SERIES

The ABS has recently released time series spreadsheets featuring data from the Labour Force Survey and two Labour Force supplementary surveys: Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Membership; and Persons Not in the Labour Force. The spreadsheets are available free from the **ABS web site**.

The new **Labour Force Historical Time Series spreadsheets** (cat. no. 6204.0.55.001) feature data from 1966 to 1984. Included is information on the civilian population by labour force status, sex, age, marital status, full-time/part-time status, states and territory of usual residence, industry, occupation, hours worked and status of worker (whether an individual is

an Employer, Self Employed or Wage and Salary Earner).

The **Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Membership spreadsheets** (cat. no. 6310.0) present mean weekly earnings of employees in their main job for the period 1990 to 2006. Data are disaggregated by sex, full-time/part-time status, state, age, industry (1994 onwards), and occupation (1997 onwards). These spreadsheets complement the trade union membership time series spreadsheets that were released in 2006.

The **Persons Not in the Labour Force spreadsheets** (cat. no. 6220.0) present data from 1994 to 2006 on persons not in the labour force by age, sex and state; main activity when not in the labour force by state, age, sex and capital city/balance of state; main reason not actively looking for work by sex, age and state; and main reason not working due to caring for children for people not in the labour force by state.

For further information contact the Labour Market Section on (02) 6252 7206 or the National Information and Referrals service on 1300 135 070, email client.services@abs.gov.au.



Counts of Australian Businesses



COUNTS OF AUSTRALIAN BUSINESSES

A strategic issue identified by users of statistics in the 2005 National Statistical Priorities Paper (prepared by the SA ABS as a compilation of all states issues) was the need to profile business activity for various areas of the state.

On 26 February 2007, the ABS released a new publication, **Counts of Australian Businesses, Including Entries and Exits** (cat. no. 8165.0). This product presents business counts, including data measuring levels and rates of business entries to and exits from the Australian economy, and business survival. These data are sourced from the Australian Bureau of Statistics Business Register.

SURVIVAL OF BUSINESSES BY MAIN STATE (a): June 2003 - June 2006

	Operating in June 2003 no.	Survived to June 2004 no.	Survival rate %	Survived to June 2005 no.	Survival rate %	Survived to June 2006 no.	Survival rate %
New South Wales	650 890	547 547	84.1	471 773	72.5	417 888	64.2
Victoria	465 922	398 554	85.5	346 884	74.5	308 630	66.2
Queensland	358 339	302 563	84.4	259 786	72.5	228 384	63.7
South Australia	135 477	117 740	86.9	103 527	76.4	92 242	68.1
Western Australia	185 858	157 199	84.6	135 962	73.2	120 039	64.6
Tasmania	35 156	30 607	87.1	26 952	76.7	24 152	68.7
Northern Territory	13 650	11 173	81.9	9 458	69.3	8 248	60.4

Australian Capital Territory	23 677	19 589	82.7	16 681	70.5	14 682	62.0
Australia	1 868 969	1 584 972	84.8	1 371 023	73.4	1 214 265	65.0

(a) Please refer Explanatory Notes for more information regarding businesses and their Main State of operation.
Source: *Counts of Australian Businesses, Including Entries and Exits* (cat. no. 8165.0)

This publication replaces two previous releases: **Australian Bureau of Statistics Business Register, Counts of Businesses - Summary Tables** (cat. no. 8161.0.55.001) and **Experimental Estimates, Entries and Exits of Business Entities, Australia** (cat. no. 8160.0.55.001). The counts presented in this publication are not comparable to those previously released.

The change in scope for *Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits* means that only those units which are actively trading in goods or services are included in the output. Specifically, the survey population excludes:

- Entities which had an active ABN but which did not have a GST role; and
- Business with a GST role which had not returned a Business Activity Statement (BAS) for more than five quarters or had returned a BAS but had reported zero dollar values.

Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits is likely to be a much more accurate measure of businesses which actually commence (or recommence) or cease activity. The new *Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits* scope is likely to result in estimates which gain much greater acceptance in the user community.

On 27 April 2007, a series of more detailed datacubes was released which provides users with cross-classified industry (2 digit ANZSIC), state and territory, and employment and turnover size range data. On 31 May 2007, another set of cross-classified datacubes was released, which includes postcode data as well as more detailed industry, state and territory and employment and annual turnover size range data.

Consistent with ABS progressive release policy for *Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits* outputs, additional datacubes are being considered for release throughout 2007. Users will be kept up to date with regard to data availability through the ABS website.

The ABS is also looking to code each of the nearly two million businesses on the ABS Business Register (ABSBR) to the new Australian Statistical Geographical Classification (ASGC), using a technique known as "mesh-block coding". It is expected that this initiative will make it possible to produce high quality fine level sub-State data for users in future.

Details can be found on the Notes and the Explanatory Notes of the *Counts of Australian Businesses, including Entries and Exits* publication. For further information contact Ashley Bartlett on (02) 6252 5402, email clientservices@abs.gov.au.

In addition, the ABS recently released the following Discussion Paper: The first iteration of the **Discussion Paper: The First Iteration of the Business Longitudinal Database, 2004–05** (cat. no. 8164.0). The aim of the Business Longitudinal Database (BLD) is to produce a reliable longitudinal dataset of both characteristics and financial data that will allow analyses of changes in the performance of a cohort of businesses over time. The BLD aims to increase understanding of:

- the activities or factors that are relevant to business performance; and
- the business characteristics that are associated with these activities or factors.

This overview is designed to encourage feedback from potential data users regarding the adequacy of business characteristics topics and financial variables currently contained in the BLD and, also, the possible ways in which firm-level productivity and other aspects of performance may be analysed.

For further information about this paper and related statistics, contact Helen Harkin on Canberra (02) 6252 6531, email clientservices@abs.gov.au.

Is Life in Australia Getting Any Better?



IS LIFE IN AUSTRALIA GETTING ANY BETTER?

The ABS released the 2007 edition of **Measures of Australia's Progress: Summary Indicators** (cat. no. 1383.0.55.001) in April 2007. This publication is designed to help people judge how Australia is doing – economically, socially and environmentally. It provides a suite of indicators which people can use to assess Australia's progress.

The publication shows that:

- We're living longer. A boy born in 2005 could expect to live to 78 (4 years longer than a boy born in 1995), while a girl could expect to reach 83 (3 years longer than a girl born in 1995).
- We're more educated. Between 1996 and 2006 the proportion of 25-64 year olds with a non-school qualification such as a degree or certificate rose from 48% to 59%.
- We're wealthier. Australia's real (i.e. adjusted to remove the effects of price change) net worth per person rose at an average rate of 1.0% per year between June 1996 and June 2006, reaching almost \$237,000 in 2006.
- There was a small increase in the rate of people who had experienced a 'personal crime' (assault, sexual assault or robbery) between 1998 and 2005, from 4.8% to 5.3%. The rate of household crime (break-ins and car theft), on the other hand, fell from 9.0% to 6.2% over the same period.
- Biodiversity is on the decline. Available data suggests some decline in Australia's biodiversity in the last decade, partly encapsulated in a rise in the number of threatened bird and mammal species (a 44% increase over the 1996–2006 period). Biodiversity cannot be measured comprehensively and up-to-date data are not available for some indicators.
- Air quality in Australia is generally good. Between 1997 and 2005 fine particle health standards were exceeded in selected urban areas on average between one and two days each year, with the exception of 2002 and 2003. The health standards were exceeded more frequently in 2002 and 2003, mainly because of bushfires and dust storms around the Sydney and Melbourne areas.

For more information contact Josie Barac (02) 6252 5414, email client.services@abs.gov.au.

Regional Statistics and Year Book Australia



REGIONAL STATISTICS AND YEAR BOOK AUSTRALIA

What's New in Regional Statistics is a biannual newsletter about regional and small area statistics. It includes topical articles and reviews of relevant ABS publications. 'What's New in Regional Statistics' highlights developments in statistics relevant to regions, including metropolitan, urban, non-urban and rural areas, and additional information of likely interest to researchers, policy makers and other users of small area data. Interested readers are invited to visit the Regional theme page on the ABS website for links to other related information.

For further information or to subscribe to *What's New in Regional Statistics* contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070, email regional.statistics@abs.gov.au.



YEAR BOOK AUSTRALIA

Year Book Australia provides a comprehensive and detailed statistical overview of various aspects of our great nation. This magnificent volume contains 30 chapters dealing with Australia's geography and climate, government, international relations, defence, education and health and welfare support systems; plus many more interesting topics.

The 2007 Year Book Australia also celebrates 100 years continuous service to the nation by Australian volunteer lifesavers. Lifesavers are honoured by being featured on the cover and by the inclusion of an article contributed by Surf Lifesaving Australia.

There is also a feature article on the prominent role Australia has played in Antarctica. This is to mark the International Polar Year established by the International Council for Science and the World Meteorological Organisation. This article has been prepared jointly by the Australian Government Antarctic Division and Dr Tom Griffiths of the Australian National University.

Copies of this limited edition Australian Bureau of Statistics flagship publication cost \$97.00. Orders can be made using your credit card [on-line](#) or by contacting the National Information Referral Service on 1300 135 070, email client.services@abs.gov.au.

ABS NSW Contacts



ABS NSW CONTACTS

ABS NSW Bookshop and Library

Level 5, St Andrews House, Cnr Kent and Bathurst Sts, Sydney.

Phone: (02) 9268 4953

Open: 9.00am to 4.30pm Monday to Wednesday, Friday; and 9.00am to 3.00pm Thursday, (excl. public holidays)

ABS Web Site

www.abs.gov.au

ABS National Information and Referral Service (NIRS)

ABS NIRS is the first point of contact for all your statistical and publication enquiries. NIRS can be contacted from anywhere in Australia between 8:30am and 5:00pm Monday to Friday

Telephone: 1300 135 070

Fax: 1300 135 211

Email: client.services@abs.gov.au

NSW Regional Director: Ian Ewing (02) 9268 4236

Director NSW Statistical Coordination: Peter Damcevski (02) 9268 4238

NSW Statistical Training and Consultancy: Geoff de Baux (02) 9268 4327

NSW Census Liaison Officer: If you would like information on products and services from the 2006 Census contact Larissa Wharton (02) 9268 4376.

Statistics News NSW Newsletter: If you would like to be placed on our free newsletter email list, or make suggestions about content or usability of this newsletter, contact Nita Kambouris (02) 9268 4609.



Selected Releases



SELECTED RELEASES

ABS publications are available to download free from the ABS web site.

To enquire about release dates, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

Select release April to June 2007

ABS Catalogue

No.

2940.0.55.001	Information Paper: Measuring Net Undercount in the 2006 Population Census
4621.1	Domestic Water and Energy Use, New South Wales
4722.0.55.001	The Health and Welfare of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women: A Snapshot

4722.0.55.003	Law and Justice Statistics - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People: A Snapshot
1338.1	New South Wales in Focus
4159.0.	General Social Survey: Summary Results, Australia
4828.0.55.001	Self-assessed Health in Australia: A Snapshot
4159.0.30.001	General Social Survey: Basic Confidentialised Unit Record File
4159.0.30.002	General Social Survey: Expanded Confidentialised Unit Record File
2940.0	Census of Population and Housing, Data Quality - Undercount
4700.0	ABS Directions in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Statistics, 2007
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4705.0	Population Distribution, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians

About this Release

Statistics News NSW provides readers with new and relevant information about survey developments, user consultation, reviews, training, information sessions, major changes to the statistical program, State data releases and significant ABS data releases.

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